

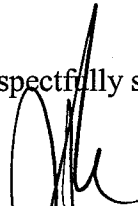
### REMARKS

The claims have been amended without prejudice or disclaimer to manage the claims fees. Claim 7 has been canceled. Claim 9 has been amended. Claims 1-6 and 8-9 are pending. Applicants retain the right pursue the subject matter as originally claimed in future applications.

The filing fee has been calculated after amendment of the claims by the preliminary amendment. No new matter is added by entry of this preliminary amendment.

It is believed that no fee is due with this communication, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed document, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to Fulbright & Jaworski Deposit Account No. 50-1212/EPCL:013US.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 16, 2008